

The following list contains the entire submission submitted July 26, 2023 03:30:02pm ET, and is formatted for ease of viewing and printing.

---

## Contact information

<b>First name</b>	Elizabeth
<b>Last name</b>	Potter
<b>Mailing Address</b>	P.O. Box 1612
<b>City</b>	Boise
<b>State/Province</b>	Id
<b>Postal Code</b>	87301
<b>Country</b>	United States
<b>Phone</b>	208-342-7024
<b>Company/Organization</b>	Advocates for the West on behalf of Idaho Conservation League
<b>Email</b>	epotter@advocateswest.org

---

## Request

<b>Request ID</b>	801306
<b>Confirmation ID</b>	800746

Pursuant to FOIA, please provide copies of the records described below that relate to the U.S. Air Force’s “Airspace Optimization for Readiness for Mountain Home Air Force Base” (Airspace Optimization) proposal and its Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS): 1) All communications related to the U.S. Air Force’s “Airspace Optimization for Readiness for Mountain Home Air Force Base” in Idaho (Airspace Optimization) and its Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that was issued in March 2023. Such records should include, but not be limited to, communications between the Air Force and EPA about the Airspace Optimization proposal and EIS process, along with internal communications about EPA’s role coordinating and consulting with the Air Force on the EIS; 2) All records that relate to the Mountain Home Air Force Base’s training exercises and other activities in Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada over the past five years. Such records should include, but not be limited to, any internal communications about the occurrence of such exercises or activities, communications between EPA and the Air Force, reports from the public or stakeholders about such exercises or activities, and information about the environmental impacts of such activities. 3) Records that relate to the EPA’s application of the munitions response guidelines (OSWER Directive 9200.1-101) and/or the Military Munitions Rule, 40 C.F.R. Part 266, to Air Force training exercises or other activities in Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada.

**Request description**

---

**Supporting documentation**

<b>Additional Information</b>	2023.07.26 - EPA FOIA No. 1_FINAL_scrubbed.pdf
-------------------------------	--

---

**Fees**

<b>Request category ID</b>	other
<b>Fee waiver</b>	yes

Request for a Fee Waiver ICL requests that the EPA waive all fees in connection with this request, as provided by 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(4)(A)(iii) and 40 C.F.R. § 2.107. EPA must waive fees if disclosing the information is “[i]n the public interest because it is likely to contribute significantly to public understanding of the operations or activities of the government and is not primarily in the commercial interest of the requester.” 40 C.F.R. § 2.207(l)(1). ICL easily meets these factors to qualify for a fee waiver. First, the requested information would “shed light” on the U.S. Air Force’s Airspace Optimization proposal and its preparation of the EIS, along with the Air Force’s ongoing training exercises in Idaho, Oregon, and Nevada. The Air Force’s Airspace Optimization proposal and the EIS are discrete agency actions, while the Air Force’s ongoing exercises involve identifiable activities associated with a specific Air Base (Mountain Home) in a limited geographic area (delineated airspace in Oregon, Idaho, and Nevada). See 40 C.F.R. § 2.207(l)(1)(2)(i) (requiring connection between records and “identifiable” federal agency actions). Second, disclosure of the requested records will contribute significantly to public understanding of these agency actions as required. See 40 C.F.R. § 2.207(l)(1)(2)(ii)–(iv). There is substantial public interest in the Air Force’s Airspace Optimization proposal and its ongoing training exercises given the significant connection that many members of the public have to the Owyhee Canyonlands and nearby areas in which these activities take place. The proposal is also controversial because it would increase low altitude training of U.S. Air Force F-15 fighter jets at supersonic and subsonic speeds, while deploying chaff and flares, all issues of concern to ICL and other members of the public. Accordingly, a broad segment of the public in the area, and not just ICL, has an interest in understanding the process and consideration given to this topic. Although the Air Force is primarily responsible for these activities, EPA possesses unique information about this important public issue. The Air Force identified EPA as a stakeholder for the EIS process, and the EIS cited a wide variety of EPA standards, guidelines, and reports. Records seeking information about EPA’s engagement will shed light on the Airspace Optimization EIS process by showing whether EPA had any questions, concerns, or input for the Air Force, and whether there are additional or different environmental impacts associated with the Air Force’s ongoing operations and activities. ICL seeks many records that were initially generated or received by EPA and not by other entities (e.g., internal communications about the EIS process, and complaints

---

**Expedited processing**

Expedited Processing	no
----------------------	----

**Additional information**

fee_amount_willing	0
--------------------	---